



CONGRESSMAN
DAN LUNGREN
LISTENING TO CALIFORNIA'S 3RD DISTRICT

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Lance Cpl. Shane S. Keller

CAMP RIPPER, Iraq - Marines stand shoulder-to-shoulder as they sing holiday music during a candlelight vigil service held on Christmas Eve.

**Please Feel Free to Tell
a Friend**

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Dear Friend,

Christmas Day, 1776, found no joy for George Washington's troops. They were busy crossing a frigid river filled with dangerous blocks of ice. And at around midnight, sleet and hail poured down from the sky. But their surprise maneuver—one of the most famous in American military history—became their inspiration. The resulting victories at Trenton and Princeton were significant turning points in the Revolutionary War.

Remembering this important part of our nation's history reminds us that during this holiday season, our nation's troops are in harm's way. Theirs is the truest definition of giving, a sacrifice most of us will never know.

The very happiness we enjoy here as we celebrate is protected by the valiant sacrifices of our troops. It is only because of their bravery that we have our freedom.

I have visited veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan at Walter Reed Hospital here in Washington, D.C. and seen their sacrifices first hand. It is of the utmost importance that we provide for our nation's veterans. For, as General Washington once said, "the willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional as to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their country."

It is often said around this time of year that it is better to give than to receive. In that spirit, I urge you to consider giving back to the troops. Of course, we will never reciprocate their sacrifice to our nation—but we can offer them some comfort and support as they

endure a very difficult situation.

The Department of Defense has set up a website to facilitate giving back to the troops titled America Supports You (www.americasupportsyou.mil). The site connects users to the many non-profit institutions such as Operation Home Front, A Million Thanks, and Soldiers' Angels that help connect grateful citizens with the troops. Some of the ways that you can help our troops include sending gift packages, letters of support and gratitude, and offering support such as lawn care to families with loved ones overseas.

Please note that due to security concerns, care packages sent to "Any Wounded Soldier" will be discarded. Care packages must be sent to a specific soldier, therefore necessitating the non-profit entities facilitating this process.

It is an honor to continue serving California's 3rd District. Have a wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely,



Daniel E. Lungren
Member of Congress

Was this information helpful to you?

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